

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~steam generator for a~~ drum laundry machine comprising:

a laundry tub;

a laundry drum located inside the laundry tub;

a water supply tube connected to a water supply valve;

a steam generator provided in the laundry machine, the steam generator including:

a container provided with a water supply port configured to be connected to ~~a water~~the water supply tube of the laundry machine to receive water and a steam exhaustion port configured to be connected to a steam supply tube of the laundry machine to supply steam into ~~a tub~~the laundry tub of the laundry machine to perform a laundry course;

a heater to heat the water supplied into the container, ~~the heater configured to be connected to and controlled by a controller of the laundry machine;~~ and

a drain unit having an inlet to drain water which remains inside the container ~~after supplying steam into the tub;~~ and

a controller configured to operate the drain unit after supplying steam into the laundry tub, thereby maintaining cleanness of the steam generator.

2. (Currently Amended) The ~~steam generator~~drum laundry machine of claim 1, wherein the drain unit includes a siphon structure.

3. (Currently Amended) The ~~steam generator~~drum laundry machine of claim 1, wherein the drain unit comprises:

a siphon pipe arranged to penetrate a lower portion of the container, the siphon pipe including the inlet; and

a siphon cap arranged at an outer circumferential surface of the siphon pipe with a certain interval for forming a channel along which water rises.

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~steam-generator~~drum laundry machine of claim 3, wherein the drain unit further comprises a supporting rib for supporting the siphon cap in order to maintain a certain interval between the siphon cap and the siphon pipe.

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~steam-generator~~drum laundry machine of claim 3, wherein the upper end of the siphon pipe is positioned inside the container, a lower end thereof is positioned outside the container, and a height of the siphon pipe positioned inside the container is higher than a water level which is predetermined as a limit level when supplying water into the container for generating steam.

6. (Currently Amended) The ~~steam-generator~~drum laundry machine of claim 3, wherein the siphon cap has a blocked upper side and covers the siphon pipe, and a lower end of the siphon cap is arranged to maintain a certain interval with a bottom surface of the container in order to introduce water.

7. (Currently Amended) The ~~steam-generator~~drum laundry machine of claim 4, wherein the supporting rib is radially formed at an outer circumferential surface of the siphon pipe with a certain interval, and is provided with a mounting groove for mounting a lower end of the siphon cap.

8. (Currently Amended) The ~~steam-generator~~drum laundry machine of claim 1, wherein the water is drained through a bottom of the container.

9. (Currently Amended) The ~~steam-generator~~drum laundry machine of claim 1, wherein the drain unit operates when the water inside the container reaches a predetermined level.

10. (Currently Amended) The ~~steam-generator~~drum laundry machine of claim 1, wherein the drain unit is configured to drain almost all the water in the container.

11. (Currently Amended) A drum laundry machine comprising:

a laundry tub;

a laundry drum located inside the laundry tub;

a water supply tube connected to a water supply valve;

a steam generator including:

a container provided with a water supply port connected to the water supply tube to receive water and a steam exhaustion port to exhaust steam;

a heater to heat the water supplied into the container; and

a drain unit to drain water which remains inside the container ~~after supplying steam into the tub until a water level of the container reaches a predetermined level;~~

means for spraying the exhausted steam directly into the laundry drum to perform a laundry course, the means being connected to the steam exhaustion port of the steam generator; and

a controller to control the drum laundry machine to treat laundry in the laundry drum, the controller configured to control the heater to generate steam and to control the water supply unit to supply water into the container until a water level of the container reaches a predetermined level, thereby operating the drain unit after supplying steam into the laundry drum to maintain cleanness of the steam generator.

12. (Previously Presented) The drum laundry machine of claim 11, further comprising means for spraying exhausted water from the laundry tub directly into the laundry drum.

13. (Previously Presented) The drum laundry machine of claim 12, wherein the drain unit is configured to drain almost all the water in the container.

14. (Previously Presented) The drum laundry machine of claim 11, wherein the drain unit is configured to be operated when the water in the container reaches a second level that is higher than the predetermined level.

15-24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) The ~~steam generator~~drum laundry machine of claim 9, wherein the water supply tube is connected to a water supply valve of the drum laundry machine, the controller being configured to control the water supply valve to supply water into the container until the water in the container reaches the predetermined level.

26. (Previously Presented) The drum laundry machine of claim 14, wherein the controller controls the water supply valve to supply water into the container until the water reaches the second level.

27. (New) A drum laundry machine comprising:

a laundry tub;

a laundry drum located inside the laundry tub;

a water supply tube connected to a water supply valve;

a steam generator provided in the laundry machine, the steam generator including:

a container provided with a water supply port connected to the water supply tube to receive water, and a steam exhaustion port to exhaust steam;

a heater to heat the water supplied into the container; and

a drain unit to drain water which remains inside the container;

means for spraying the exhausted steam to the laundry drum, the means connected to the steam exhaustion port of the steam generator; and

a controller to control the drum laundry machine to treat laundry in the laundry drum, the controller being configured to control the heater to generate the steam,

wherein the controller is configured to control the water supply valve to supply water into the container until a water level of the container reaches a predetermined level and then operate the drain unit to drain almost all the water in the container, thereby maintaining cleanness of the steam generator.